

Senate Resolution 351

By: Senator Cagle of the 49th

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Georgia Mountains Center in Gainesville, Georgia,
2 and commending the City Council of Gainesville for supporting this outstanding venue; and
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, constructed in 1978-1979 and officially opened in January, 1980, by the City
5 of Gainesville, the Georgia Mountains Center is today considered northeast Georgia's
6 premier meeting site; and

7 WHEREAS, this federal, state, and local project included funds and technical assistance from
8 the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the U.S. Community
9 Development Administration, the Georgia Departments of Transportation and Community
10 Affairs, and the City of Gainesville; and

11 WHEREAS, the multi-purpose meeting and convention center has hosted notable concerts,
12 including performances by Waylon Jennings and Bob Dylan; regional and statewide
13 conferences and conventions; theater performances; cultural events; trade shows; dances;
14 rodeos; wrestling matches; banquets; meetings; socials; weddings; media events; church
15 services; civic clubs; proms; and class reunions; and

16 WHEREAS, given its central location, size, and modern facilities, the Center hosts all high
17 school and college graduations from Gainesville and Hall County schools and colleges; and

18 WHEREAS, the Center sparked remarkable renovation and historic preservation among the
19 1930's-era buildings in and around the downtown square; and

20 WHEREAS, it has served as the centerpiece of the community's premier annual festival, the
21 Mule Camp Market, and its predecessors, the Corn Tassel Festival and the Georgia
22 Mountains Jubilee; and

1 WHEREAS, the Center is the original home of the Gainesville Theater Alliance, which has
2 sponsored world-class theatrical productions such as *Hello Dolly!* and many other notable
3 plays; and

4 WHEREAS, the Center played an integral role in the community's hosting of the 1996
5 Olympic competition for rowing and flatwater kayaking on Lake Lanier; and

6 WHEREAS, the Center has generated more than \$80 million, which has had a substantial
7 economic impact on the community over the past 25 years; and

8 WHEREAS, to celebrate its success, the Center is undergoing a \$1.2 million refurbishment,
9 including new carpet, wallpaper, equipment, theater seats, and arena seats, and will conduct
10 a feasibility study to determine long-range expansion plans.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
12 commend the City Council of Gainesville for underwriting and maintaining this destination
13 which anchors the downtown business community, the professional staff of the Center, and
14 the thousands of patrons and visitors who enjoy the setting, amenities, and events.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
16 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Mountains Center and the
17 City Council of Gainesville.